

## United States District Court District of Maryland

# EVOUCHER ATTORNEY MANUAL

Revised March 2, 2015

## **eVoucher Attorney Manual**

Introduction	1
Assistance with eVoucher	1
Getting Started	1
Court Appointment	1
Accessing the CJA eVoucher Program	1
Logging In	2
The Home Page	3
Folders on the Home Page	3
Navigating in the CJA eVoucher Program	4
Menu Bar	4
Adjusting Views	5
My Profile	7
Appointment Record	8
CJA-20 Voucher Process Overview	10
Creating the CJA-20 Voucher	10
Basic Info	10
Services	11
Expenses	12
Claim Status	13
Documents	15
Signing and Submitting the Voucher	16
Interim Payment Authorization	18
Claim for Compensation in Excess of the Statutory Case Maximum, CJA-26	18
Rejected Voucher	18
Use of Associates	19
CJA-20 Quick Review Panel	20
Expert or Service Request Process Overview (CJA-21)	21
Creating an Expert or Service Authorization	22

Submitting an Authorization Request for Expert Services	22
Documents	22
Signing and Submitting the Voucher	23
Creating the CJA-21 Voucher	24
Entering Expert Not in System	25
Submission and Approval of CJA-21 Vouchers	25
Transcript Request Process, CJA-24	26
Creating a Travel Authorization	28
Submitting an Authorization Request for Travel	28
Documents	29
Signing and Submitting the Voucher	30
Reports and Case Management	31
Defendant Detailed Voucher Report	32
Defendant Summary Report	33

#### Introduction

The CJA eVoucher System is a web-based solution for submitting, monitoring, and managing all Criminal Justice Act (CJA) functions. The eVoucher program includes the following modules:

- Online voucher submission by attorneys with automatic statutory maximum oversight.
- Online authorization requests by attorneys for expert services.
- Upload supporting documents to vouchers or authorization requests.
- Reports for attorneys to take an active part in monitoring costs.
- Automatic e-mail notification to attorney of approval or rejection of vouchers and authorization requests.

#### ASSISTANCE WITH EVOUCHER

In addition to the electronic resources available on our website (<a href="http://www.mdd.uscourts.gov/cja/evoucher.asp">http://www.mdd.uscourts.gov/cja/evoucher.asp</a>), you may contact the CJA office by email at <a href="https://www.mdd.uscourts.gov">MDD CJA@mdd.uscourts.gov</a> or by phone at 410-962-4674.

#### **GETTING STARTED**

#### **Court Appointment**

When an attorney is appointed to a case, the program will automatically generate and send an email to the attorney. The email will confirm the appointment and provide a link to the CJA eVoucher program.

#### **Accessing the CJA eVoucher Program**

You may access the CJA eVoucher program several ways:

- Click on the link provided in the appointment email,
- Bookmark the web address and use your internet browser to access the system, or
- Click on the CJA eVoucher link in the Criminal Justice Act tab on the District Court's website.

#### Logging In

• Log into eVoucher using your Username and Password (both of which are initially assigned by the Court).



If you forget your username or password, click on the Forgot your Login? hyperlink.

• Enter your Username or Email address to retrieve your information.



Your home page provides access to all of your appointments and vouchers. eVoucher security settings prevent attorneys from viewing each other's information.

#### Folders on the Home Page

Your home page has several folders to organize your appointments and vouchers:

FOLDER	
My Active Vouchers	Contains vouchers or documents that you are currently working on or that have been submitted to you by an expert service provider.
Appointments' List	A list of all your active appointments
My Submitted Vouchers	Contains vouchers for yourself, or for your service provider, which have been submitted to the Court for payment.
	Documents submitted to the Court requesting expert services or interim payments will also appear in this folder.
My Service Provider's Vouchers	Contains all the vouchers for your service providers.  This will include:  Vouchers in progress on behalf of the experts  Vouchers submitted to the attorney for approval  Vouchers signed off by the attorney and submitted
	to the Court for payment
Closed Vouchers	Contains vouchers that have been paid or documents that have been approved by the Court.  Closed vouchers will only be displayed for open cases. When the appointment is completed, the closed vouchers will no
	longer be displayed on your home page. They are still accessible through the appointment page.

## NAVIGATING IN THE CJA EVOUCHER PROGRAM



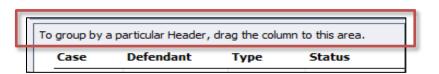
Menu Item	
Home	The eVoucher home page (see section on Home Page)
Operations	Allows you to search for specific appointments.
Reports	Selected reports you may run on your appointments.
CM/ECF	Hyperlink to CM/ECF Case Search
Links	Hyperlink to CJA resources: forms, guides, publications, etc.
Help	Provides:
	<ul> <li>Another link to your Profile</li> <li>"Contact Us" email</li> <li>Privacy Notice</li> </ul>
Logout	Logs user off the eVoucher program.

#### **Adjusting Views**

You may alter the manner information is displayed in the folders.

Opening/Closing Folders:	Click on the [ (minus sign) to close the folder.
	Click on the 🔟 (plus sign) to open the folder.
Moving Folders:	You may rearrange the folders on your screen.
	1. Left-click on the folder you wish to relocate.
	2. Drag the folder to the new location and release the mouse.
Sorting:	Click on the column heading (e.g., Case, Description, Type) to sort in either ascending or descending chronological (or alphabetical) order.
Resizing of Column:	<ol> <li>Along the folder headings (e.g. case, defendant, type, etc.), move your cursor to the line between the columns until an arrow appears.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>Left-click your mouse and drag the line in the desired direction to enlarge or reduce the column size.</li></ol>
Note: The folder doe	es not increase, therefore some columns may move off the screen.

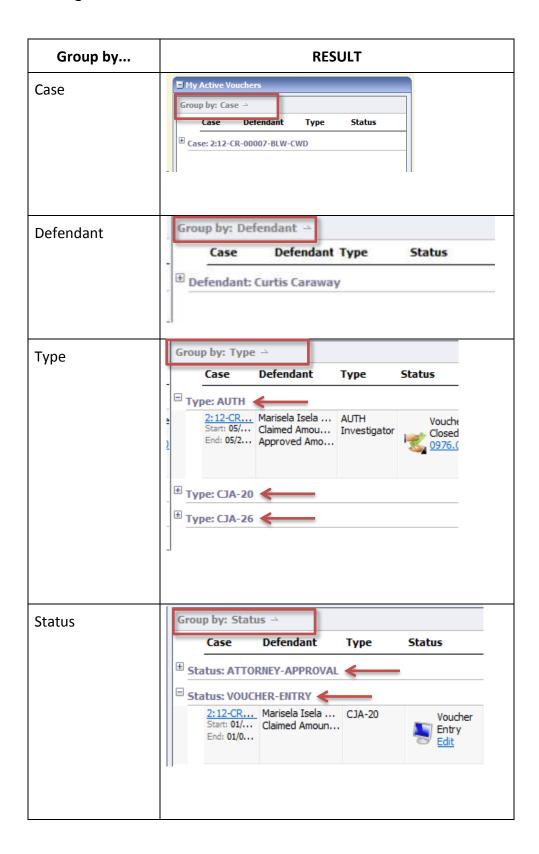
**Group by Column Heading**: You may sort all the information within a folder by grouping documents by the column heading. All folders displaying the **Group Header** bar may be sorted in this manner.



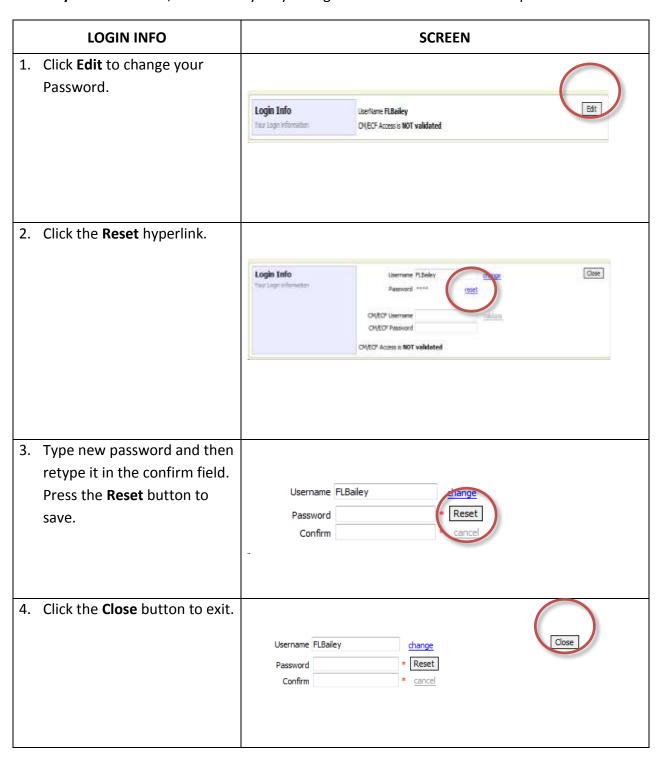
- 1. Left-click on the header for the column you wish to group by.
- 2. Hold the cursor and drag the header to the "Group by Header" bar.
- 3. Release the cursor and all the information in that folder will be grouped and sorted by that selection.

#### **Group by Column Heading:**

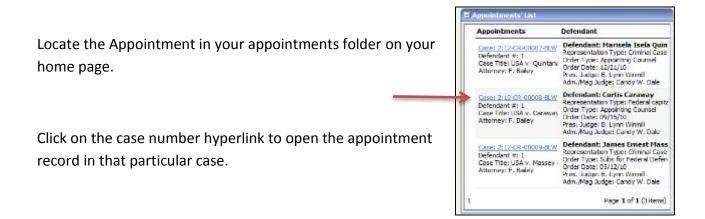
(continued)

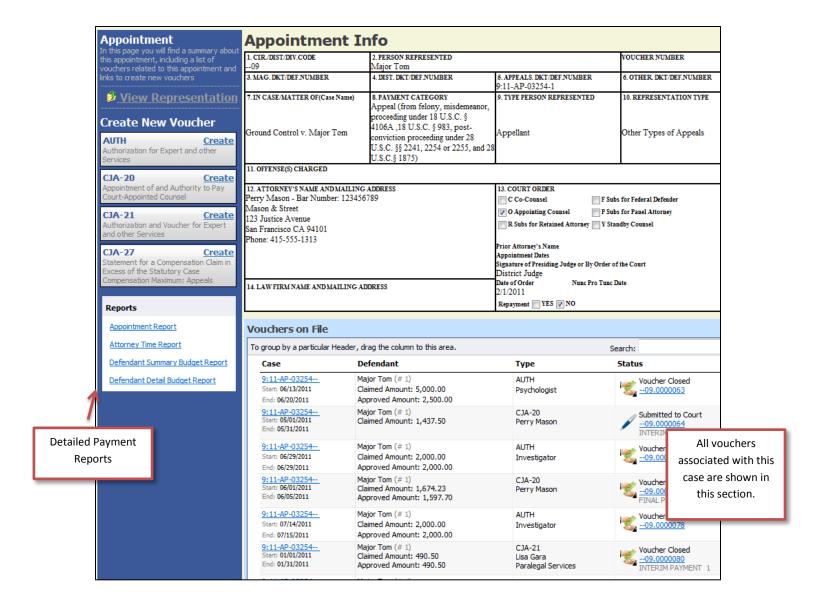


In the My Profile section, the attorney may change the account username and password.

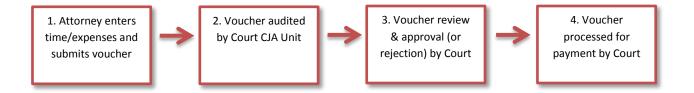


#### APPOINTMENT RECORD





### CJA-20 VOUCHER PROCESS OVERVIEW



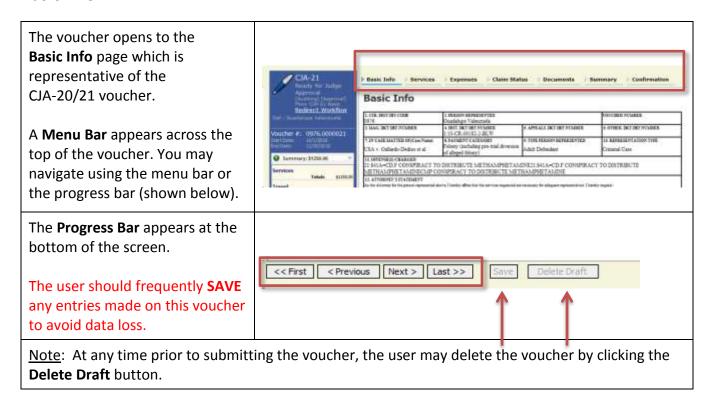
#### CREATING THE CJA-20 VOUCHER

The Court creates the appointment. The attorney will initiate the CJA-20 voucher.

Open the Appointment record.

Click on **Create** from the CJA-20 voucher template found on the Appointment screen.

#### **Basic Info**



#### **Services**

Steele Itela & Sa Line item time entries should be entered on **Services** tab. Both In-Court and Out-of-Court time should be recorded on this screen. come | cheme | text | (sec.) | [see | Security | 1. Enter the date of the service (REQUIRED). January 2011 Th Fr The default date is always the current date. sic Info 13 15 19 20 21 22 ervices 27 29 26 20 01/03/2011 You may type in the date, or select a date by clicking on the calendar icon. 11000011 2.Select **Service Type** from the in Direct Streeters drop-down menu. (REQUIRED) In Bull and Detection Prorter 6 Revenables Hostings g. Appeals Court h Other Cet of Court Services Note: You may add time in any and Conference b. Obtaining and Reviewing Records order. You can also sort in s. logal Separate and Refet Welling chronological order at any time. 3. Enter hours of service in #1/88/2011 P a. Anaignment and/or Plas tenths of an hour. (REQUIRED) ations Library 4. Add a description of services. (REQUIRED) Note: The rate will adjust depending upon the date of service 5. Click Add.

The entry for services will be added to the voucher.

Note: You may group your entries by any of the column headers by dragging the header to the **Group By** bar.

Click **Save**.

Please note there is NO AUTOSAVE function on this program. You must hit the Save button periodically in order to save your work.

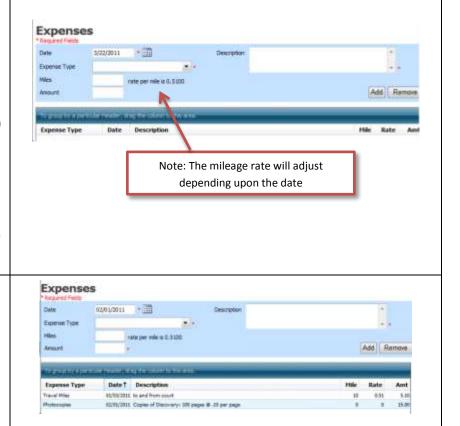
#### **Expenses**

Line item expense entries should be made on the **Expenses** tab.

- 1. Enter Date (REQUIRED)
- 2. Enter Expense Type from drop-down menu (REQUIRED)
- 3. Enter
  - a. miles traveled, if any, and/or
  - b. dollar amount of expense.
- 4. Enter Description (REQUIRED)
- 5. Click Add. (REQUIRED)

<u>Note</u>: If you are claiming inhouse photocopy expenses, you must indicate the number of pages and the rate charged per page.

Click Save.



Once you begin entering data on the **Services** or **Expenses** tab, you may receive the following error message:

Service and/or Expenses are out of the Voucher Start and End Dates.

This error message will be removed when you complete the **Claim Status** section described in the next section.

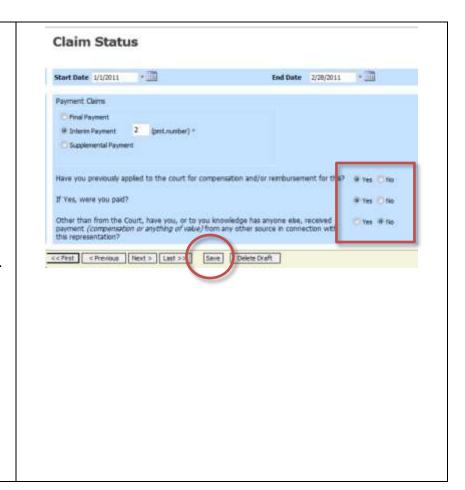
#### **Claim Status**

1. Enter the start and end date from the services or expenses entries.

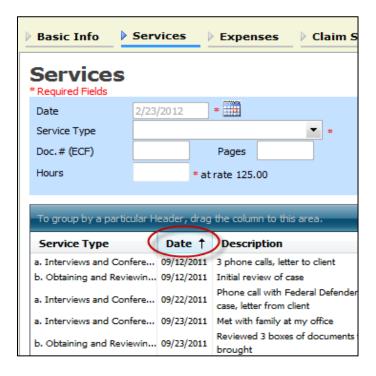
Note: The dates **do not** carry over from other sheets.

- 2. Indicate final or interim payment. If you indicated interim, enter which interim number this voucher represents.
- 3. Answer all the questions regarding previous payments in this case.
- 4. Click Save.

Refresh your browser and the error message should go away.



To easily find out the earliest and latest dates, go to the **Services** or **Expenses** tab and click on the **Date** column heading to sort chronologically by date.



<u>Note</u>: Incorrect start and end dates on the Claim Status tab is the most common problem with the eVoucher system.

#### **Documents**

Attorneys (as well as the Court) may attach documents to any Supporting Documents record. Browse. Attach any documentation which Description supports the voucher, e.g., travel Upload or other expense receipts, orders from the Court, Claim in Excess No Attachments of the Statutory Case Maximum, and CJA-26s. 1. To add the attachment, click the **Browse** button and locate your file. **Supporting Documents** F:\CM-ECF\TRAINING De Browse Note: All documents must be Copies of Receipts Description submitted in PDF format. Upload 2. Add a description of the attachment. 3. Click **Upload**. The attachment is added to the voucher. **Supporting Documents** Browse File Description Upload Copies of Receipts Click Save. << First | < Previous | Next > | Last >> Save Delete Draft

#### **Signing and Submitting the Voucher**

When you have added all the voucher entries, you are ready to sign and submit your voucher to << First | < Previous | Next > Last >> Save Delete Draft the Court. Click Last. The **Confirmation** screen appears, Confirmation which reflects all entries from the T COST DEST DEV CODE 2. PERSON REPRESENTED OCICRER NUMBER Marisela Isela Quintana de Tarango 4 DEST DET DES NUMBER J. MAG. DKT DET NUMBER A APPEALS DET DEF NUMBER A OTHER DET DIE NUMBER previous screens. 12-CR-00007-1-BLW-CWD \* IN CASE MATTER OF/Case Name S PAYMENT CATEGORY Felony (including pre-trial diversion of alleged felony) USA v. Quintana de Tarango Adult Defendant riminal Case 11. OFFENSE(S) CHARGED 1. Verify the information is 12. ATTORNEY I NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS 13 COURT ORDER F. Lee Bailey - Bar Number: 1234 550 W Fort Street, Rm 400 correct. C Co-Commit This for Febral Defeate O Appointing Counsel # Salin for Famil Attorney rise ID 93724 R Subs for Retained Atturney | T Standby Counsi Prior Asterney's Name Appetatused Dates Signature of Presiding Judge or By Order of the Court B. Lynn Wissmill 14 LAWFIRM NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS 2. Scroll to bottom of the screen. alley & Associates TIN: \*\*\*, \*\*. 6789 123 Legal Blvd. South Any Town DC 12345 USA Phone: 888-355-4000 Fax: 888-355-4001 Name Fro Tony Date 12/21/2010 (continued on the next page) Represent VES / NO CLAIMS FOR SERVICES AND EXPENSES FOR COURT USE ONLY CATEGORIES BEVIEW CLAIMED a. Arraignment and/or Plea b. Bail and Detention Hearing c. Nicotion e. Sentencing Hearings f. Revocation Hearings g. Appeals Court h. Other 16. a. Interviews and Conferences

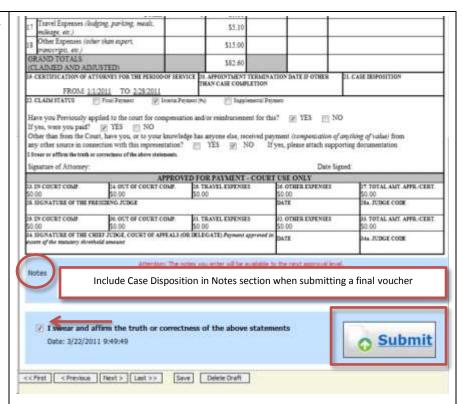
b. Obtaining and Reviewing Records c. Legal Research and Brief Writing

d. Travel Time e. Investigative or Other Work

- 3. **Notes Box**: Use this box for any additional information you may want to include.
- 4. Check the box to swear and affirm the truth or correctness of the youcher.

The date and time will automatically be entered.

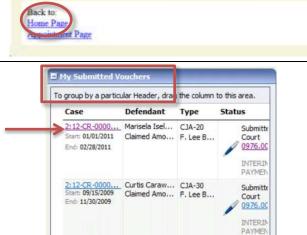
4. Click **Submit** to send to the Court.



A confirmation screen will appear indicating that the voucher has been submitted for payment.

Click on the Home Page.

The active voucher has been removed from the **My Active Vouchers** folder and now appears in **My Submitted Vouchers** folder.



Page 1 of 1 (2 items)

0976.0000058

er has been submitted for payment. You will receive a notification if we need more details

#### **Interim Payment Authorization**

Counsel seeking interim payments in a case should follow the procedure in place for requesting interim payments outside of eVoucher. Counsel should submit a written request to the CJA Coordinating Attorney. The request should address address the complexity, the anticipated length of the representation, and the financial hardship which would ensue should counsel undertake the representation for such a period of time without compensation.

#### Claim for Compensation in Excess of the Statutory Case Maximum, CJA-26

When fees in excess of the case maximum are requested, the attorney must prepare a CJA-26 and upload it as a **PDF** attachment to the CJA-20 voucher. The CJA-26 form is available <a href="here">here</a> and guidance to assist in preparing the CJA-26 is available <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **Rejected Voucher**

If the voucher has been rejected by the Court, it will reappear in the **My Active Vouchers** folder, highlighted in gold. An automated email message will be sent explaining what corrections need to be made.



#### **Use of Associates**

When an attorney seeks to use the services of an associate in a representation, the attorney must email the CJA office at MDD CJA@mdd.uscourts.gov with the following information:

- the associate's name
- the associate's mailing address
- the associate's email address
- the associate's social security number
- information about any firm association, including EIN

The CJA Specialist will issue the associate a user name and password.

The Court will appoint the associate, which will allow the associate to create the CJA 20, enter services, enter expenses, print the voucher, and submit the voucher to appointed counsel.

Appointed counsel will then review the associate's voucher, affirm the accuracy of the associate's voucher, and upload the associate's voucher as a PDF attachment to the voucher being submitted to the Court.

#### **CJA-20 Quick Review Panel**

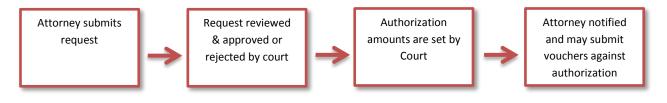
When entering time and expenses in a CJA-20 voucher, the attorney may monitor the voucher totals by using the quick review panel on the left-hand side of the screen.

Services and Expenses will total CJA-20 automatically as entries are made to the voucher. Voucher #: Services: \$312.50 Expenses: \$30.60 Reports Form CJA20 (printable version) Expand the item to reveal specific types of entries. Services: \$312.50 In Court Services Arraignment and/or \$62,50 0.5 Bail and Detention Hearing \$0.00 Click on the down arrow (▼)to Motion Hearings Trial \$0.00 \$0.00 expand or minimize the view. Sentencing Hearing Revocation Hearings \$0.00 \$0.00 Appeals Court Other \$0.00 Totals 0.5 Out of Court Services Service Interviews and Conferences Amt Obtaining and Reviewing Records 1.0 \$125.00 Legal Research and Brief Writing Travel Time 0 \$0.00 1.0 \$125.00 Investigative and Other Work 0 \$0.00 2.0 \$250.00 Expenses: \$30.60 Travel Expense Type Travel Miles \$30.60 Travel Misc \$30.60 Expenses Expense Type \$0.00 \$0.00 Long Distance Charges Photocopies \$0.00 Postage \$0.00 Other Expenses \$0.00

#### EXPERT OR SERVICE REQUEST PROCESS OVERVIEW (CJA-21)

Before expert services may be claimed by an attorney, the attorney must obtain court authorization. Once authorized, the request moves to the CJA unit for final system update. The authorization will appear in the appointment record for that defendant, which is viewable by the Court and by the attorney.

A more detailed description of the process can be seen below:



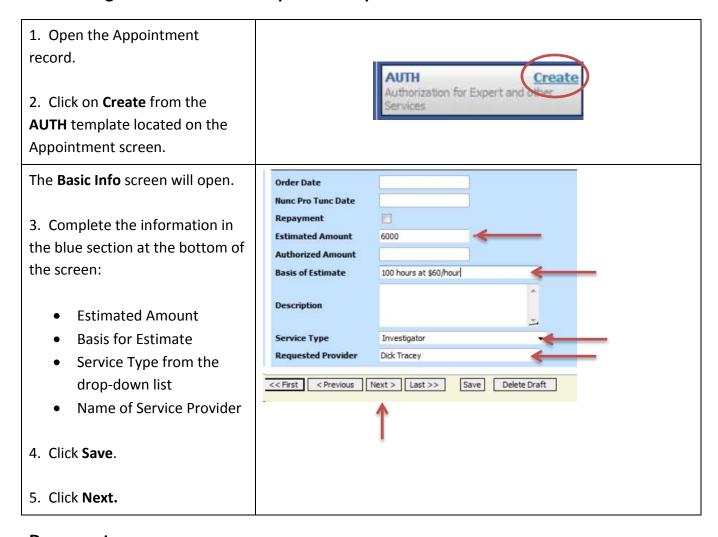
- An Authorization Request is submitted to the Court through the CJA eVoucher program. The Court approves the services within the eVoucher program. A judge must approve the service prior to employment.
- The Clerk's Office will enter an authorization with a specified amount. This may or may not appear as a "not-to-exceed" amount. An e-mail is generated notifying counsel that an authorization is approved.
- A voucher which exceeds the authorized amount cannot be submitted without additional approval. The eVoucher program will decline the submission of a voucher in excess of the "not-to-exceed" amount.

<u>Interpreters</u>: You may employ an interpreter prior to receiving authorization. However, authorization must be obtained prior to submitting vouchers.

<u>Translation of Documents</u>: Authorization is required prior to employing interpreters to translate or transcribe documents.

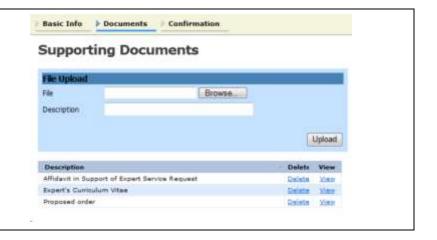
#### CREATING AN EXPERT OR SERVICE AUTHORIZATION

#### **Submitting an Authorization Request for Expert Services**

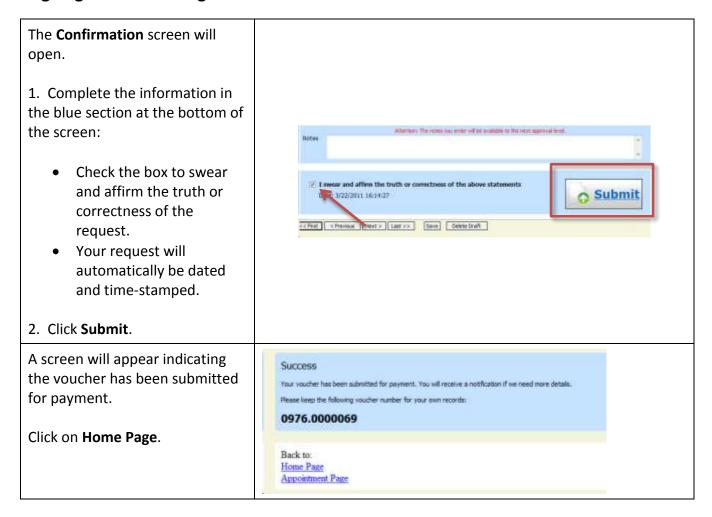


#### **Documents**

- 1. Upload:
  - Affidavit of counsel explaining the necessity for expert services
  - Resume or curriculum vitae of expert, if available
- 2. Click Save.
- 3. Click Next.



#### Signing and Submitting the Voucher



When the Court has approved the Authorization, it will move from your **My Submitted Vouchers** folder to your **Closed Vouchers** folder.

<u>Note</u>: You will not be able to create a CJA-21 using this authorization until the authorization has been approved.

#### CREATING THE CJA-21 VOUCHER

Open the Appointment record. CJA-21 Click on **Create** from the CJA-21 Authorization and Voucher for and other Services Voucher template found on the Appointment screen. The **Basic Info** screen will appear. **Click User Previous** Basic Info Authorization. All approved authorizations associated with the appointment will be displayed. Click to highlight the ++ POR | - Preside | -- | authorization you wish to associate with the CJA-21.

The service type will roll-over from the authorization selected. If no authorization is being used, you will use the drop-down box to select the service type.

- Enter a **Description** of the service to be provided on the CJA-21
- Click on the arrow to select your Expert from the drop-down list. The expert's contact information will be displayed.
  - Note: Only experts registered with the service type selected will appear in the dropdown box. See below to enter an expert not on the drop-down list
- Click on **Create Voucher**

#### **Entering Expert Not in System**

If the expert you would like to use is not in the system, you can add payment information and create the CJA-21 Voucher using the **New Voucher Information** section.

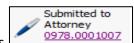
<u>Note</u>: While you can enter payment information for an expert who has not been added to the system, you will not be able to submit a voucher for the expert until the expert is approved by the Court.

- All fields in asterisks are mandatory
- You must also fill out the Country

#### **Submission and Approval of CJA-21 Vouchers**

CJA-21 vouchers require two levels of submission or approval. The attorney will enter the services and expenses on behalf of the expert (based upon the documentation the expert provided the attorney), as well as will perform the first level of submission.

The voucher will appear in the attorney's My Active Vouchers as



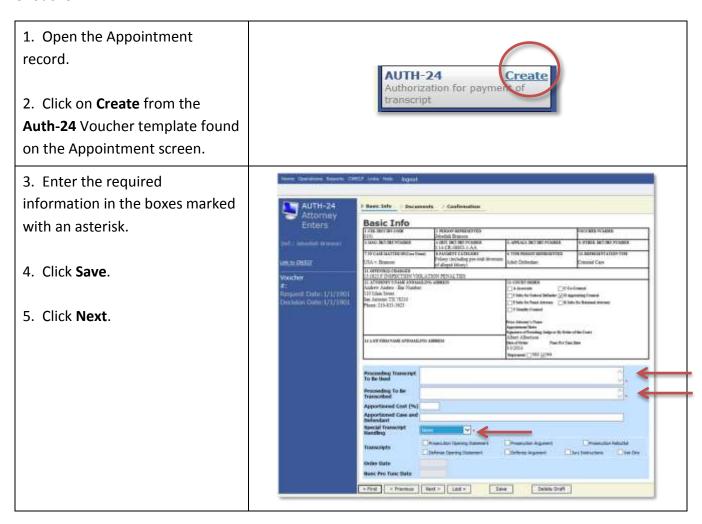
The attorney will then perform the second level of approval/submission by clicking on the voucher, navigating to the **Confirmation** page and approving the voucher. The voucher will move to the attorney's **My Submitted Vouchers** folder.

#### TRANSCRIPT REQUEST PROCESS, CJA-24

Before a transcript can be prepared, an attorney must obtain court authorization.

For cases in which counsel making the request for a transcript is appointed at the district court level (including substitute counsel), counsel should click on the hyperlink for the case from the **Appointments** list of the **Home Page**.

<u>Note</u>: For cases in which counsel was not appointed at the district court level, counsel should follow the procedure in place for obtaining a transcript by preparing and submitting a CJA-24 outside of eVoucher.

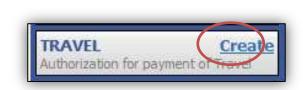


6. Upload any supporting documentation. Note: All documents must be submitted in PDF format. THE CHANGE DECT COST CONT. The Confirmation screen will open. Alternos Thereins out error of the available to the rest approvalend. 7. Add any notes. 8. Click Save. Submit ccFeet CFrenton (Next.) Last.>> Save Celete Oraft. 9. Complete the information in the blue section at the bottom of the screen. Your request will automatically be time stamped.

Once the request is reviewed and approved by the district judge, the transcript clerk will order the transcript and issue a CJA-24 for review and approval by appointed counsel.

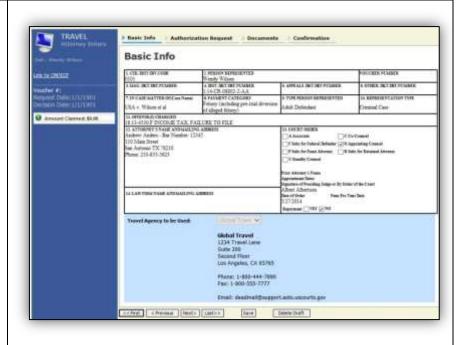
#### **Submitting an Authorization Request for Travel**

- 1. Open the Appointment record.
- 2. Click **Create** from the Travel Voucher template located on the appointment screen.



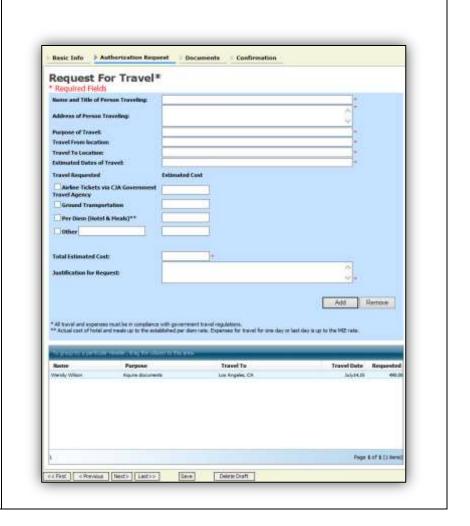
The **Basic Info** screen will open. The **Travel Agency to be Used** section will automatically populate.

3. Click the **Authorization Request** tab at the top of the page or the **Next** option from the progress bar at the bottom of the page.



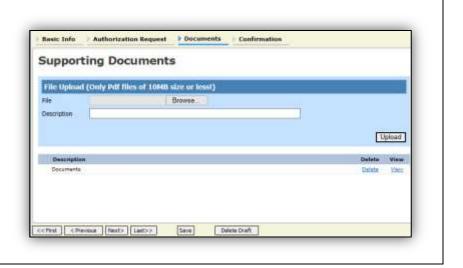
## The **Request for Travel** screen will open.

- 4. Complete the information in the blue section:
  - Person Traveling
  - Address of Traveler
  - Purpose of Travel
  - Travel Origination
  - Travel Destination
  - Dates of Travel
  - Estimated Cost
  - Justification for Travel
- 5. Click Save.
- 6. Click Next.



#### **Documents**

- 1. Upload any supporting documents.
- 2. Click Save.
- 3. Click Next



#### **Signing and Submitting the Voucher**

The **Confirmation** screen will open. 1. Complete the information in Attendant: The restor, you writer sell be evallable to the next approved level ubic/Attomey the blue section at the bottom of the screen: I swear and affirm the tristh or correctness of the above statements Submit Date: 6/19/2014 9:28:36 Check the box regarding the accuracy of the <First < Previous Next > Last = Save authorization request. • Your request will be dated and time-stamped automatically. 2. Click Submit. A screen will appear indicating the previous action was Success successful and the voucher has Your youther has been submitted for payment. You will receive a notification if we need more details been submitted for payment. Please keep the following voucher number for your own records: 0101.0000162 Click on Home Page to return to Back to: the home page. Home Page Appointment Page

The Travel Voucher will now appear in the **My Submitted Documents** section. When the Court has approved the Authorization, it will move from your **My Submitted Vouchers** folder to your **Closed Vouchers** folder.

#### REPORTS AND CASE MANAGEMENT

At the start of a case, it may be difficult for counsel or the Court to know whether a case has the potential to exceed the statutory maximum allowed for representation. Therefore, attorneys are encouraged to monitor the status of funds, attorney hours, and expert services, by reviewing the reports provided in the CJA eVoucher program.

Viewable reports appear on the left-hand review panel.

Each panel, depending on which screen you are viewing, may have different reports available.

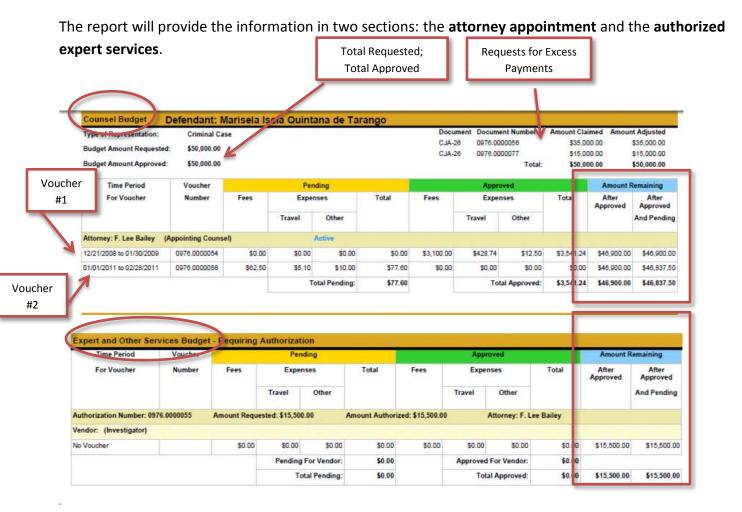
Each report will have a short description of the information received when viewing that report.

The two main reports are the Defendant's Detailed Voucher Report Summary and Budget Report.



#### **Defendant Detailed Voucher Report**

This report will reflect the total amount authorized for this representation, any excess payment allowed (as with a budgeted case), the voucher submitted against those authorizations, and the remaining balances.



#### **Defendant Summary Report**

This report contains the same information as the **Detailed Report** without the individual voucher data.

